

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. A telephone system comprising:  
2 a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects the position of the  
3 portable phone;  
4 a second phone; and  
5 a call router that rings the second phone when a call is received for the portable  
6 phone if the portable phone is within a predetermined physical relationship with the  
7 second phone as indicated by the position detector in the portable phone.
- 1 2. The portable phone of claim 1 wherein the position detector comprises a global  
2 positioning system (GPS) sensor.
- 1 3. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the call router rings the portable phone  
2 at the same time the call router rings the second phone, and connects the call to whichever  
3 of the portable and second phones that is answered first.
- 1 4. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the second phone comprises a portable  
2 phone.
- 1 5. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the second phone comprises a land-  
2 based phone coupled to a telephone jack.
- 1 6. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the predetermined physical relationship  
2 comprises a predefined geographical region.

1 7. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the predetermined physical relationship  
2 comprises a predefined distance between the portable phone and the second phone.

1 8. The telephone system of claim 1 wherein the call router further rings the portable  
2 phone when a call is received for the second phone if the portable phone is within the  
3 predetermined physical relationship with the second phone.

1 9. The telephone system of claim 8 wherein the call router rings the portable phone  
2 at the same time the call router rings the second phone, and connects the call to whichever  
3 of the portable and second phones that is answered first.

- 1 10. A method for selectively ringing or not ringing a second phone when a call is  
2 placed to a portable phone, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 the portable phone using an internal position detector to detect its geographical  
4 position; and  
5 ringing the second phone when a call is received for the portable phone if the  
6 portable phone is within a predetermined physical relationship with the second phone as  
7 indicated by the internal position detector in the portable phone.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:  
2 ringing the portable phone at the same time the second phone is rung; and  
3 connecting the call to whichever of the portable and second phones that is  
4 answered first.
- 1 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the second phone comprises a portable phone.
- 1 13. The method of claim 10 wherein the second phone comprises a land-based phone  
2 coupled to a telephone jack.
- 1 14. The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined physical relationship  
2 comprises a predefined geographical region.
- 1 15. The method of claim 10 wherein the predetermined physical relationship  
2 comprises a predefined distance between the portable phone and the second phone.
- 1 16. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of ringing the portable phone  
2 when a call is received for the second phone if the portable phone is within the  
3 predetermined physical relationship with the second phone.

- 1 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of:
- 2 ringing the portable phone at the same time the second phone is rung; and
- 3 connecting the call to whichever of the portable and second phones that is
- 4 answered first.

- 1 18. A telephone system comprising:  
2 (A) a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects the position of  
3 the portable phone;  
4 (B) at least one defined geographical region, each defined geographical region  
5 having corresponding phone parameters that determine how a call is rung and routed;  
6 (C) a mechanism that receives the position of the portable phone from the position  
7 detector, and that determines from the position of the portable phone whether the portable  
8 phone enters or exits a defined geographical region; and  
9 (D) a call router that rings and routes a telephone call according to the phone  
10 parameters for a region.
- 1 19. The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the position detector comprises a  
2 global positioning system (GPS) sensor.
- 1 20. The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the at least one geographical region in  
2 (B) and the mechanism in (C) reside within the portable phone, and the call router in (D)  
3 resides in a telephone company network that is coupled to the portable phone.
- 1 21. The telephone system of claim 18 wherein the portable phone communicates its  
2 detected position to the call router, and wherein the at least one geographical region in  
3 (B), the mechanism in (C), and the call router in (D) reside in a telephone company  
4 network that is coupled to the portable phone.

1 22. A method for selectively ringing or not ringing a second phone when a call is  
2 placed to a portable phone, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 the portable phone using an internal position detector to detect its geographical  
4 position;  
5 defining at least one geographical region;  
6 defining phone parameters that determine how a call is rung and routed for each  
7 defined geographical region;  
8 receiving the position of the portable phone from the position detector;  
9 determining from the received position of the portable phone whether the portable  
10 phone enters or exits a defined geographical region;  
11 updating phone parameters for a geographical region when the portable phone  
12 enters the geographical region;  
13 updating phone parameters for a geographical region when the portable phone  
14 exits the geographical region; and  
15 ringing and routing a telephone call according to the phone parameters for a  
16 defined geographical region.

- 1 23. A telephone system comprising:  
2 a portable phone that includes a position detector that detects the position of the  
3 portable phone;  
4 a defined region that is assigned a telephone number;  
5 a call router coupled to the portable phone that rings the portable phone when the  
6 assigned telephone number of the defined region is called if the portable phone is within  
7 the defined region as indicated by the position detector.
- 1 24. The telephone system of claim 23 wherein the call router does not ring the portable  
2 phone when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and the  
3 portable phone is outside the defined region.
- 1 25. The telephone system of claim 23 wherein the call router delivers a voice message  
2 when the assigned telephone number of the defined region is called and the portable  
3 phone is outside the defined region.

- 1 26. A method for dynamically defining a region for a portable phone that includes an  
2 internal position detector, the method comprising the steps of:  
3 (1) placing the portable phone in a dynamic region definition mode;  
4 (2) moving the portable phone to a first boundary point;  
5 (3) storing the first boundary point as a boundary point for the region as detected  
6 by the internal position detector;  
7 (4) repeating steps (2) and (3) until all desired boundary points have been entered;  
8 and  
9 (5) computing a region by connecting the boundary points.

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